



## Deadly Gas Could be in Your Home

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There may be radioactive gas leaking into your house, and you may not be aware of it. Radon is a chemical found in the soil and is a product of uranium.

The Department of Environmental Quality says it is the leading cause of lung cancer for non-smokers. In fact, the U.S. Surgeon General says radon causes about 21,000 deaths a year.

Radon is a problem for Utah homeowners; though many people are unaware the gas exists. Terri Edler and her family were shocked to learn the walls of their home were filled with dangerous levels of radon.



"It was really scary with having three kids," says Edler. "That it can come and seep to upstairs, we were really concerned about it."

The Department of Environmental Quality is encouraging everyone to test their homes for radon.

"It varies within neighborhoods," says Christine Keyser, with the Department. "You could have high levels and your neighbors could have low levels. You can't taste it, you can't smell it you can't see it. So the only way of knowing what your levels are is by testing."

You can test for radon yourself. The kit costs about \$6 and you will know the results in about a week. If you home has high levels of radon, you can have a system installed to help clear the air. The system will cost you about \$1,200.

For more information on radon, visit the Department of Environmental Quality's website:

[www.radiationcontrol.utah.gov](http://www.radiationcontrol.utah.gov) <<http://www.radiationcontrol.utah.gov>>.

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